

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been divided into Groups as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-9, drawn to a process for preparing a polyvinylactam dispersion.
Group II: Claims 10-11, drawn to an aqueous polyvinylactam dispersion.
Group III: Claim 12, drawn to a drug or cosmetic product, adhesive, heat transfer fluid, coating, thickener, adsorber, binder, laundry detergent, plastics, ceramics, refrigerant, ink, pigment formulation, metal quenching bath.

Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-9 (drawn to a process for preparing a polyvinylactam dispersion), for examination.

Additionally, the following species elections have been identified.

Regardless of the Group elected, Applicants have been required to elect:

- (A) a single specie of the organic and/or inorganic salt, and
(B) a single specie of the polymeric anionic dispersant.

Applicants provisionally elect, without traverse and for examination purposes only, the following species (at least elected claims 1-7 readable thereon):

- (A) sodium sulfate as an inorganic salt and tri sodium citrate dehydrate as an organic salt; and
(B) acrylic acid/vinylformamide copolymer as a polymeric anionic dispersant.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Customer Number

22850

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